



DES Newsletter – February 2011

Greetings Everyone,

I know what you're thinking...when is all of this cold weather going to end? We did get a short reprieve, but we're not out of the woods yet. Groundhog predictions are only 39 percent accurate (what if we did the exact opposite of what they predicted???), so I wouldn't bet the farm thinking that spring was going to come around anytime soon. In spite of it all, the members of our Directorate have been doing their best to deal with all of the snow and ice and continue to make things happen. Still, we all need to continue doing our part to promote safe winter driving habits all around. After seeing a sheet of ice come off the top of a semi-truck and explode onto the roadway on I-80 in front of oncoming traffic, it's painfully obvious that we have our work cut out for us in educating the public on the importance of voluntary compliance with New Jersey's ice and snow removal laws. After all, the life you save may be your own.



Speaking of saving lives; allow me to make a pitch for the new online Antiterrorism Level 1 training that is available online. The Department of Defense has updated the course and there's new and relevant information about the things we need to do to protect ourselves and our installation (besides the best place to sit on a plane). Our goal is to continue making Picatinny Arsenal a "hard target" for any potential adversary. The course highlights the fact that the achievement of that goal requires a team effort from people in the community as well as our police, fire, and security personnel. Think about it.

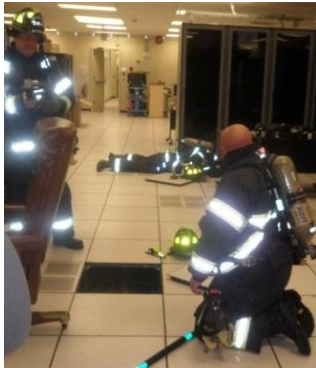
I'd like to take time to recognize the efforts of a group of police officers in D Squad to promote camaraderie within their squad and the Police Department. There's nothing that says we have to "like" each other in order to accomplish the mission, but it helps when it's obvious that the people you're working with are there to support one another to get the job done. Likewise, I had the opportunity to sit in on Search and Seizure training with C Squad and Kurt Perhach (our new prosecutor). It was a good refresher for me and I was impressed by the types of questions and answers that our police officers were giving.

Most people like to have an idea of where they're going and what they're doing within the foreseeable future. Some people also like to know why they're doing something. As a part of our Anti-Mushroom Campaign (talk to me if you need me to explain), allow me to share with you the direction that the Installation Management Community is taking to get us to what's known as, "Vision November 2011." In a nutshell, we're looking at six focal points:

- Situational Dominance (situational awareness plus a common situational understanding)
- Roles and Relationships (clarifying roles and exercising discipline in how we get things done)

- Strategic Communications (consistent themes and messages communicated at high frequency across multiple media)
- Fiscal Sustainability (obtaining, managing and executing resources to sustain our mission)
- Leader and Workforce Development (building the bench of leaders and workforce we need today and for tomorrow)
- Energy and Environment (reducing the consumption of energy while preserving the natural environment)

There are lots of twenty-five cent college words in that vision, but you will be hearing more about this in the future.



When you take a quick look at this picture on the left, you might think that one of our firefighters is sleeping on the job, but he's actually doing a search for signs of smoke and fire after an alarm went off in a building. Our firefighters and police officers have been responding to several alarms lately. In these circumstances, you never know when it's going to be an actual, nuisance, or false alarm so you always have to remember to handle it as if it were the real thing. Likewise, people in the community need to know that they also need to follow the building evacuation procedures as required. Yes it's a challenge, but we are professionals in all that we do.

We had an interesting discussion the other day concerning the Incident Command System (ICS) and how it affects our operations when responding to a disaster or emergency incident. As a refresher, ICS is a part of the National Response Framework (NRF) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). ICS is normally structured to facilitate operations into five functional areas, including: command, operations, planning, logistics, and finance/administration. However, did you know that in some cases, you can add intelligence/investigations to the structure? For those of you performing police, fire and security duties, you can expect additional ICS training in the near future. In the meantime, you can obtain free online training and earn college credits and continuing education units (CEUs) by going to <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>. If you're interested in a future career as a lead or supervisor, they've also added some leadership development courses to their list of courses.



Picatinny Arsenal continues to make progress on the President's Challenge Program for physical fitness. Right now, we're up to exactly 101 members on our group. I've earned over 12,000 points so far, which is more than a fourth of the way (okay...31.62 percent to be exact) towards earning the Bronze Medal. However, I'm trying to figure out who the person (or machine) is that has earned over 390,000 points (that's a Gold Medal a couple times over). There's still plenty of time to give us all some competition by going to <http://www.presidentschallenge.org>, creating an individual account, and then signing up for the group by using Group Number 97046. Hang in there.

Richard J. Karlsson
Director of Emergency Services